

# U.S. EPA Wetland Monitoring & Assessment Priorities



Montana Wetland Monitoring and Assessment Meeting

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# **Elements of a Wetland Monitoring and Assessment Program Checklist**

- **Framework to help USEPA, state and tribal program managers plan and implement wetland monitoring and assessment program**
- **Consistent with EPA's "Elements of a State Water Monitoring and Assessment Program."**
- **Directly applicable to the scoping and review of federal Clean Water Act grant actions**



# Checklist Elements

- **Develop Program Strategy**
- **Commit to Development of a Quality Assurance Program and Project Plans**
- **Define Program Objectives**
- **Select Survey Design**
- **Develop Assessment Indicators and Methods**
- **Select Data Management Procedures**
- **Select Data Analysis Procedures**
- **Select Project Reporting Venues**
- **Prepare for Program Evaluation**
- **Account for Program Infrastructure and Deployment**



# **Wetland Program Development Grant Guidelines**

- **Developing a Comprehensive Wetland Monitoring and Assessment Program**
- **Protection of vulnerable (isolated) wetlands**
- **Improving the success of compensatory mitigation**



# Program Activity Measure

## IV-WD-5

- **Goal 4: Healthy Communities and Ecosystems**  
- Protect, sustain or restore the health of people, communities, and ecosystems using integrated and comprehensive approaches and partnerships.
- **Objective 3: Ecosystems.** Protect, sustain, and restore the health of natural habitats and ecosystems.
- **Sub-objective 2: Wetlands.** Net gain/loss in number of acres of wetlands



# **Program Activity Measure (PAM)**

## **WD-5:**

- **Number of States where wetland condition has improved as defined through biological metrics and assessments.**



# **Three tiered assessment approach to characterize the ambient condition of wetlands.**

- **Tier 1: Landscape Assessment**
- **Tier 2: Rapid Wetland Assessment**
- **Tier 3: Intensive Site Assessment**